

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, and 20;
cancel claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 16 and 18; and add new claims 21-26, as
follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~1~~
21, further comprising the step of extracting said first collagen
portion from a tissue source prior to said ~~derivatizing~~ adding
step.
3. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 2,
wherein said tissue source includes an animal tissue.
4. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~1~~
22, wherein said derivatizing step includes a step of reacting
said first collagen portion with 4-mercapto-1,8-naphthalic
anhydride.
5. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~14~~
4, wherein said derivatizing step further includes a step of
reaction with glutaric anhydride.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~1~~
22, further comprising a step of adding a pH altering material to
said derivatized first collagen portion to thereby adjust a pH of
said ~~composition~~ mixture to be within a ~~desired~~ range of 6.8-7.8.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 7,
wherein said pH altering material includes NaOH.

10. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ 21, further comprising the step of adding a material to said mixture selected from the group of collagen fibrils, collagen fibers and collagen fiber bundles.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ 23, further comprising the step of extracting said additional collagen from a tissue source prior to said adding step.

13. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein said tissue source includes an animal tissue.

14. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ 24, wherein said derivatizing step includes a step of reacting said additional collagen with 4-mercapto-1,8-naphthalic anhydride.

15. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein said derivatizing step further includes a step of reaction with glutaric anhydride.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ 24, further comprising a step of adding a pH altering material to said derivatized additional collagen to thereby adjust a pH of said ~~composition mixture~~ mixture to be within a ~~desired~~ range of 6.8-7.8.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein said pH altering material includes NaOH.

20. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ 23, further comprising the step of adding a material to said mixture selected from the group of collagen fibrils, collagen fibers and collagen fiber bundles.

21. (New) A method of making a tissue adhesive, comprising the steps of:

adding a first collagen portion to a second collagen portion to obtain a mixture including said first and second collagen portions; and

heating said mixture to thereby obtain a desired collagen concentration associated with said mixture, said desired collagen concentration being at least equal to 300 mg/ml but not more than 800 mg/ml.

22. (New) A method in accordance with claim 21, further comprising the step of derivatizing said first collagen portion with a functional group selected from COO^- and SH^- .

23. (New) A method of making a tissue adhesive, comprising the steps of:

adding additional collagen to a mixture including collagen;
heating said mixture including said additional collagen; and
repeating said adding and heating steps to thereby obtain a desired collagen concentration associated with said mixture, said desired concentration being at least 300 mg/ml but not more than 800 mg/ml.

24. (New) A method in accordance with claim 23, further comprising the step of derivatizing said additional collagen with a functional group selected from COO^- and SH^- .

25. (New) A method in accordance with claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

solidifying said mixture; and

sectioning said solidified mixture into strips.

26. (New) A method in accordance with claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

solidifying said mixture; and

sectioning said solidified mixture into strips.